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13. (New) A method of targeting a protein in a cell for degradation via the ubiquitination or proteasomal compartments in said cell, comprising introducing a polypeptide into said cell, wherein said polypeptide comprises a SOCS box and binds to said protein thereby subjecting said protein to degradation via the ubiquitination or proteasomal compartments in said cell.
14. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein said SOCS box interacts with said protein and mediates the binding of said protein to said polypeptide.
15. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein said polypeptide further comprises a peptide ligand, wherein said peptide ligand interacts with said protein and mediates the binding of said protein to said polypeptide.
16. (New) A method of targeting a protein in a cell for degradation via the ubiquitination or proteasomal compartments in said cell, comprising introducing into said cell a nucleic acid molecule which expresses a polypeptide in said cell, wherein said polypeptide comprises a SOCS box and binds to said protein thereby subjecting said protein to degradation via the ubiquitination or proteasomal compartments in said cell.
17. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises a vector.

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18. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said SOCS box interacts with said protein and mediates the binding of said protein to said polypeptide.
19. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein said polypeptide further comprises a peptide ligand, wherein said peptide ligand interacts with said protein and mediates the binding of said protein to said polypeptide.
20. (New) A method of identifying an antagonist which inhibits protein degradation in cells mediated by elongin C, comprising subjecting candidate molecules to an assay which detects the interaction between a SOCS box and elongin C, and selecting the molecule which interferes with said interaction.
21. (New) An antagonist identified by the method of claim 20.
22. (New) An antagonist identified by the method of claim 20, wherein said molecule binds to elongin C thereby interfering with the binding of said SOCS box to said elongin C.
23. (New) A method of identifying an agonist which promotes protein degradation in cells mediated by elongin C, comprising subjecting candidate molecules to an assay which detects the interaction between a SOCS box and elongin C, and selecting the molecule which promotes with said interaction.